

country who "hold their manhood cheap" can only envy.

I don't care whether America honors or even remembers the good service we performed in Vietnam. It doesn't bother me that war is an image that America would rather ignore. It's enough for me to have the privilege to be among you. It's sufficient to talk to each of you about things we have seen and kinships we have shared in the tough and heartless crucible of war.

Some day we will all join those who are serving so gallantly now and have preceded us on battlefields from Gettysburg to Wanat. We will gather inside a firebase to open a case of C rations with every box peaches and pound cake. We will join with a band of brothers to recount the experience of serving something greater than ourselves. I believe in my very soul that the almighty reserves a corner of heaven, probably around a perpetual lager where some day we can meet and embrace... all of the band of brothers throughout the ages to tell our stories while envious standers-by watch and wonder how horrific and incendiary the crucible of violence must have been to bring such a disparate assemblage so close to the hand of God.

Until we meet there thank you for your service, thank you for your sacrifice, God bless you all and God bless this great nation. . . .

SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO REDUCE INFANT MORTALITY

SPEECH OF

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2009

Mr. WAMP Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 260, a resolution supporting efforts to reduce infant mortality in the United States. I thank Congressman STEVE COHEN for introducing this legislation, and I am proud to be an original cosponsor.

The infant mortality rate provides the best sense of the health of a country, and unfortunately, the U.S. ranks 29th in the world in this category. That means twenty-eight other countries have better success than us in delivering and maintaining the health of a child during its first year of development. Needless to say, this is a disturbing sign, and something we as a nation must address.

Although this is a national problem, it unfortunately hits close to home for my state of Tennessee. Nowhere in the country is the infant mortality rate higher than in Memphis. While devastating, the issue has inspired St. Jude's Hospital in-depth research on infant mortality, and this has led to discoveries about the variety of factors that affect infant mortality.

My hometown of Chattanooga, Tennessee, also struggles with a similar sad phenomenon known as low birth weight (LBW) which can, and usually does, lead to the death of children under one year of age. A baby is considered to have a low birth weight if it is less than five pounds at birth. Of the twenty-eight zip codes in Hamilton County which encompasses Chattanooga, twenty-seven have high rates of LBW, meaning Hamilton County has a higher percentage of LBW than some third-world nations. Researchers are had at work to pinpoint the actual cause.

Madam Speaker, our nation's high infant mortality rate is one of the most significant

issues facing the health and future of our country, and this resolution recognizes the exceptional work that is being done to address it.

I urge all Members to support the passage of this important resolution.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JOYCE ERNESTINE WESTERHOLD

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs. Joyce Ernestine Westerhold, the Region 4 Outstanding Older Worker of the Year. As a homemaker, school teacher, and library assistant, Mrs. Westerhold has dedicated her life to serving others.

She began her career as a school teacher in 1948 and served the students of Missouri's public schools for a total of 26 years. While teaching various subjects in several public schools, Mrs. Westerhold remained active in the state teacher's organization and the Parent-Teachers Association.

After a distinguished teaching career, Mrs. Westerhold began working as a library assistant with University of Central Missouri. During her 24 years with the University's library system, her job was redesigned three times and she saw many technological changes. As the times changed, so did she.

While this award is in recognition of Mrs. Westerhold's 50 years of full-time employment as a teacher and library assistant, her work as a dedicated wife and mother cannot go unnoticed. She and her husband of 60 years have raised two lovely children.

Madam Speaker, Ernestine Westerhold has distinguished herself throughout her careers with Missouri public schools and the University of Central Missouri. I trust that the Members of the House will join me in congratulating her for this great contribution to Missouri and our country.

WIND ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3165, the Wind Energy Research and Development Act of 2009. I commend my colleague from New York, Representative TONKO for authoring this important legislation which moves our Nation further down the path toward energy independence.

As a representative of west central Illinois, I have the privilege of personally witnessing the development of our nation's energy future. Various companies, community colleges, counties, cities, and others in my congressional district are actively pursuing initiatives to develop and produce alternative sources of energy, and educate the new work force for this emerging field. In addition to the great work being done with biofuels, my district is

also home to several wind energy projects, which is why I am happy we are considering H.R. 3165 on the House floor today.

As its name implies, the Wind Energy Research and Development Act of 2009 would provide much-needed funding for the research and development of technologies to advance wind turbine design, create better control systems and increase production capacity of energy output. The bill would also authorize \$200 million annually for a new program aimed at developing technologies to improve the efficiency of wind turbines while reducing production costs.

Not only does this legislation have the potential to establish a vibrant wind energy industry in the United States, but it could also lead to the creation of thousands of jobs in the manufacturing and engineering of wind turbines, turbine components, and turbine maintenance.

Additionally, this investment in wind energy would address the looming energy crisis by capturing and harnessing a naturally produced and renewable alternative to fossil fuels. A recent report published by the Department of Energy confirmed the technical feasibility of producing an estimated 20 percent of America's energy from wind turbines by the year 2030. This important legislation would provide the funding we need for the development of the technologies to reach this goal.

We have known for decades that the United States must turn to renewables and other forms of clean energy to combat climate change, achieve energy independence from unstable foreign nations, gain greater control over the cost of energy sources, and ensure energy security. Representative TONKO's bill would provide our country the tools needed to help facilitate this transition.

The United States is poised to become the worldwide leader in clean energy development and production—we have the ingenuity, the will, the workers, and the resources. H.R. 3165 would ensure that we lead the next breakthrough in clean energy technology.

Again, I thank my friend from New York and urge my colleagues to join me in voting for the Wind Energy Research and Development Act.

STATEN ISLAND CORPS OF THE SALVATION ARMY

HON. MICHAEL E. McMAHON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. McMAHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Staten Island Corps of the Salvation Army on their 125 years of unyielding service to the people of Staten Island. Over their many years they have fed the hungry, clothed the cold and supported those in need during disasters.

Founded in London's East End in 1865 by William Booth in order to assist the poor and needy regardless of age, sex, color or creed, they now have expanded their services to 119 countries.

They have continued to live out the same mission for the neediest Staten Islanders since their commencement on February 3, 1884. The Salvation Army operates two centers on Staten Island and has been able to provide vital services from food pantries to after school activities, as well as music instruction.